



Naudé – Surname of the Week

The original form of the Naudé name was NAGEL meaning "a weaver".

The surname Naudé was first found in Burgundy, an administrative and historical region of east-central France, where this important family was anciently seated.

The Progenitor of the “Naudé” surname in South Africa is a Jacob (or Jacques) Naudé. He was born in 1669 and travelled from Berlin, Germany, to the Netherlands and then landed in Cape Town, South Africa on-board a ship called “Abbekerk”. The ship was a fleet ship built in 1698, had a crew of 125-180 men and was captained by “Captain Abraham Ram”. It departed from Texel (one of the Dutch Wadden Islands) on 23 January 1718 and arrived, when Jacob (or Jacques) Naudé was 22 years of age, at the Cape of Good Hope on 19 May 1718. He was part of the French Huguenots, a group of French Protestants who held to the Reformed tradition of Protestantism, while the populations of Alsace, Moselle and Montbéliard were mainly German Lutherans. Historian, Hans Hillerbrand claimed that on the eve of the St. Bartholomew's Day massacre in 1572, the Huguenot community included as much as 10% of the French population, but it declined to 7% by around 1600 and even further after the return of heavy persecution in 1685 with Louis XIV's Edict of Fontainebleau.

Individual Huguenots settled at the Cape of Good Hope from as early as 1671 with the arrival of François Villion (Viljoen). The first Huguenot to arrive at the Cape of Good Hope was however Maria de la Quellerie, wife of Commander Jan van Riebeeck (and daughter of a Walloon church minister), who arrived on 6 April 1652 to establish a settlement at what is today Cape Town. On 31 December 1687 the first organised group of Huguenots set sail from the Netherlands to the Dutch East India Company post at the Cape of Good Hope. The largest portion of the Huguenots to settle in the Cape arrived between 1688 and 1689 in seven ships as part of the organised migration, but quite a few arrived as late as 1700; thereafter, the numbers declined and only small groups arrived at a time.

As the progenitor, “Jacob (or Jacques) Naudé”, arrived on 19 May 1718, he was one of the last Huguenots to escape the persecution in France.

Some well-known people bearing the “Naudé” surname is:

- Charl Naudé, a South African athletics coach
- Alaric Naudé, a linguist and professor
- Gabriel Naudé (1600-1653), a French librarian and scholar;
- Jean Nadault (1629-1691), a scholar
- Jean Nadault, (1701-1779), a naturalist
- Johan Naudé, South African surgeon and urologist, known for his work with the heart transplant surgeon Christian Barnard
- Jozua François "Tom" Naudé (1889-1969), South African politician, Acting State President of South Africa from 1967 to 1968
- Elizna Naudé (b. 1978), South African eight-time gold medalist discus thrower
- Christiaan Frederick Beyers Naudé (1915-2004), South African cleric, theologian and leading Afrikaner anti-apartheid activist
- Helmuth Naudé (1904-1943), German modern pentathlete at the 1932 Summer Olympics



For more information or to have your own personal family-tree researched, please contact us at info@vitae.co.za or call us on 0813372812. Alternatively, visit our website at www.vitae.co.za